

# Spiritan Horizons

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## Editor's Introduction (English)

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# Introduction

Quite a few milestones are being celebrated this year. It is 150 years of the arrival in Mauritius of Blessed James Laval, C.S.Sp., and of Spiritan evangelization in Tanzania. The worldwide church is still mesmerized after fifty years of Paul VI's *Humanae Vitae*, not to talk of the recent debate on Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia*.

**Raymond Jung**, C.S.Sp. opens this number with a succinct and deep reflection on "*The Relevance of Poullart des Place for Spiritan Life and Mission*." **Paul Coulon**, C.S.Sp. walks us through "*Some Historical and Theological Notes on Libermann and Slavery*," showing the second founder's abolitionist zeal, marked, as always with Libermann, with prudence and concern for the common good. **Bernard Hym**, C.S.Sp. shows how Laval modeled full lay participation in Spiritan mission in "*Blessed James Desiré Laval, C.S.Sp.: Spirituality and Mission. A Message for our Times*." Bringing the Wellsprings section to a close, **Philip Massawe**, C.S.Sp. outlines aspects of "*150 Years of Spiritan Presence and Mission in mainland Tanzania*," and the challenges ahead.

The editor requested two specialists not to take a position but to outline what is involved both in arguments for and arguments against two hotly debated papal documents. The purpose is to enlighten the issues at stake. **Dr. George Worgul** in "*Amoris Laetitia – Joy of Love or Scandal of Heresy*," delves into the underlying ethical and pastoral issues. **Paulinus Odozor**, C.S.Sp. handled "*Humane Vitae after Fifty Years – Diverse Perspectives on its Message*." **Dr. Daniel Burston** then outlines the various types and ramifications of conversion in "*A Leap of Faith. What is Conversion? A Psychologist's Perspective*." Missionaries and pastors take note. **Dr. Marinus Iwuchukwu** picks up the baton and reflects on the possibility of salvation in other religions and what this means for mission and pastoral practice, in "*Interreligious Dialogue in a Postmodern Culture – the Challenges and Development of Inclusive Religious Pluralism vis-à-vis Levinas' Philosophy of Being*." The editor requested an article on My Faith as an African. **Bonaventure Ugwu**, C.S.Sp. sees faith giving rise to hope and so reflects on "*My Hope as an African*," precisely the intercultural give-and-take he experiences in the Spiritan International School of Theology, of which he is current Rector.

Under Education, the Duquesne President, **Dr. Ken Gormley**, teamed up with **James McCloskey**, C.S.Sp. to reflect on the process and content of Duquesne's recent Strategic Plan, in "*The Spiritan Charism, the University Mission, and the Duquesne Strategic Plan*." Hopefully, we will be hearing from other Spiritan Higher Institutes about how their Strategic Plan embodies the Spiritan spirit. **James McCloskey**, C.S.Sp.

adds a short but illuminating reflection on the delicate task of the University Officer for Mission and Identity: “*A Tolerance for Ambiguity: the Catholic Mission Officer.*”

Headlining the Lived Experience is a couple whose ecumenical dialogue is taking place in their married life. **Kenneth Hendrata** and **Rev. Kimberly Greway** drew the curtain a bit to let us into how “*A Couple Lives the Dialogue of Catholic and Methodist Faiths.*” The church prizes social justice and human dignity, especially of workers engaged in “lowly” tasks. Two education psychology professors, **Jocelyn Gregoire**, C.S.Sp. and **Dr. Christin Jungers**, set out to test how well the church is treating and paying sacristans and house stewards, in “*Perceptions and Experiences of Creole Workers in Catholic Parishes of the Diocese of Port Louis, Mauritius.*”

This number of *Spiritan Horizons* closes with six reviews of recent books. **William Cleary**, C.S.Sp. reviewed two. Pope Francis, *Joy of Holiness*, set out an everyperson’s recipe for holiness that includes joy and humor. Cardinal Sarah, *God or Nothing. A Conversation on Faith*, is an interview in which the Cardinal shows great admiration for the French Spiritan evangelizers of his village. **Cycus Chungu**, C.S.Sp. reviewed William Cleary, C.S.Sp., *Spiritan Life and Mission since Vatican II*, showing how the Congregation of the Holy Spirit found its path to renewal through a re-discovery of its founding charism. **James Okoye**, C.S.Sp. reviews three books. Gerhard Lohfink, *Is This All There Is?* is a good place to start reflection on the current theology of death, what really is resurrected, what the groaning of material creation for redemption might mean. James Chukwuma Okoye, *Genesis 1—11: A Narrative-Theological Commentary*, follows the narrative-theological commentary with a succinct treatment of the reception of the text in the early fathers of the church and early rabbinism. CARA, *Going, Going, Gone! The Dynamics of Disaffiliation in Young Catholics*, is a brief but enlightening survey of “sorta Catholics,” “almost-done,” “done,” and “nones” that is helpful in following the proceedings of the current Synod on Youth, 2018.

*James Chukwuma Okoye, C.S.Sp. (Editor)*



# Center for Spiritan Studies

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, USA      Division of Mission and Identity



## Goals of the Center

- Prepare a new generation of experts in Spiritan history and spirituality.
- Encourage the inculturation of the Spiritan charism where the Congregation is rapidly expanding, particularly in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.
- Develop publications and other appropriate materials to train professed Spiritans and Spiritan Lay Associates for contemporary mission.
- Organize workshops and seminars to ensure the continuity of the Spiritan ethos in educational institutions founded by Spiritans.
- Promote Spiritan spirituality in the contemporary world.
- Disseminate Spiritan classics, by translation if necessary.

## Resources of the Center

- The Center, along with the Gumberg Library, created and continues to develop the online Spiritan Collection, a treasure of publications on Spiritan founders, history, and spirituality. For more information, see Spiritan Collection.
- The Ed Supple Room housed on the third floor of the Gumberg Library is a research space on campus and a mini Spiritan library.
- *Spiritan Horizons*, a scholarly annual journal, publishes articles that further research on Spiritan tradition and spirituality. Attention is given to the ethos of Spiritan education and pedagogy.
- Other publications of Spiritan or Duquesne interest.

## Programs of the Center

- The Spiritan Scholar program is a year of research in Spiritan tradition and spirituality.
- International Essay Competitions for Spiritans in formation worldwide
- and others.
- Workshops for Spiritan formators worldwide.
- Roundtable meetings on Spiritan ethos of education.
- Conferences on Topics of Spiritan interest.
- Translation and/or Publication of seminal Spiritan Works.



## History of the Center

The Center for Spiritan Studies was founded in 2005 as a collaborative venture of Duquesne University and the Congregation of the Holy Spirit to foster research on Spiritan history, tradition and spirituality, as well as to disseminate the results throughout the Congregation, the University and the general public. The rich legacy of the Spiritan tradition lies at the very heart of Duquesne University and forms its guiding principles and practical ethos.

## Contact Information

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# Spiritan Scholar Program

## Center for Spiritan Studies

Division of Mission and Identity  
Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, USA

### Purpose

The purpose of the program is to develop scholarly specialists in Spiritan Studies. Outcomes of the program will include lectures, colloquia and articles and books on topics such as:

- Spiritan Founders and Heroes
- Spiritan Rules, Constitutions and Chapters, especially since Vatican II
- Spiritan history, including the history of various missions or circumscriptions
- The French School of Spirituality and its times
- The Theology of the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit in Spiritan Life and Mission
- Spiritan Mission, Yesterday and Today
- New Trends in World Mission
- Spiritan Pedagogy and Education
- Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation (JPIC)
- Experiences in Interreligious dialogue

### Eligibility

Eligible candidates include Spiritans, especially those in formation roles, who fulfill the academic requirements. Candidates must possess and demonstrate research ability, as well as language competency in English and French. Spiritan candidates are nominated by the general council and approved by their respective authorities. For more information see [Spiritan Scholar](#).

### Privileges and Support

Duquesne University provides library access and technology support. A faculty mentor is matched to each scholar. Spiritan scholars may reside on campus as a member of the Spiritan community.

### Application Process

Required documentation includes a resume or Curriculum Vitae (C.V.) and a personal statement of 1,000 words or less outlining a proposed research project that conforms to the topics listed in the Purpose section. Candidates should also provide a letter of recommendation or support from their respective superior. Application deadline is March 1.

### History

Launched in 2013 by Duquesne University and the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, the Spiritan Scholar Program provides an opportunity for selected individuals to conduct research on the Spiritan tradition with immersion in the extensive resources available at Duquesne University. These resources include the print and online resources of the Center for Spiritan Studies and the Gumberg Library. They also include access to academic courses and faculty expertise, the Spiritan community, and various other educational and religious organizations in the Pittsburgh area.

The program operates on an academic year calendar (nine months, September through May). At this time the program is open only to two qualified Spiritans per year.

### Application Contact

Apply online to be the next Spiritan Scholar at Duquesne. Candidates may also print the application form and mail along with C.V. and personal statement to:

Director, Center for Spiritan Studies  
Duquesne University  
GM05 Libermann Hall  
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

Documents may also be sent by e-mail to:  
[Fr. James Chukwuma Okoye](mailto:Fr. James Chukwuma Okoye)  
[okoyej@duq.edu](mailto:okoyej@duq.edu)



# Center for Spiritan Studies



Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, USA

Division of Mission and Identity

## Details for Submission

The essay should be between 4000 and 5000 words. Use any standard style formatting, preferably the Chicago Manual of Style, 17th edition, 2017. The deadline for submitting the essay is February 02, 2019. Kindly submit your essay by email at [okoyej@duq.edu](mailto:okoyej@duq.edu) or by post:

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## Competition on Spiritan Mission

The general council announces an essay competition for all Spiritans in formation on

## The Challenges and Future of Spiritan Mission

The results of the competition will be announced at Pentecost, 2019. The best two essays will receive prizes; the first essay will be published in *Spiritan Horizons*.

The evaluating panel appointed by the general council consists of the following experts:

Paul Coulon, C.S.Sp. (Paris), Raymond Jung, C.S.Sp. (Rennes), Marc Whelan, C.S.Sp. (Dublin), and Pedro Iwashita, C.S.Sp. (São Paulo).